

April 22, 1999
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APR 22 1999

Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentation in MM Docket
No. 97-247 and MM Docket No. 98-203

Dear Ms. Salas:

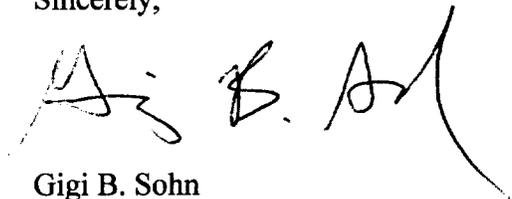
On April 16, 1999, I met with Anita Wallgren, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Ness, to discuss pending Petitions for Reconsideration filed in MM Docket No. 97-247, and several issues raised in comments and reply comments filed in MM Docket No. 98-203.

In the matter of MM Docket No. 97-247, I discussed the Commission's authority to set a fee for digital television "ancillary or supplementary services," and the limitations on its authority to exempt home shopping and like programming from that fee.

In the matter of MM Docket No. 98-203, I discussed the limitations on the Commission's authority to permit noncommercial television licensees to carry commercial advertisements on their digital television signals, and also discussed whether the Commission had the authority to exempt those licensees from the "ancillary or supplementary services" fee if the Commission were to permit them to carry such commercial advertisements. I also discussed the policy implications of such a decision, and made mention of legislation introduced by Representative Billy Tauzin which seeks to decrease commercialism on noncommercial television.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, an original and three copies of this letter are being filed with your office today.

Sincerely,



Gigi B. Sohn
Executive Director

cc. Anita Wallgren

No. of Copies rec'd 013
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